RNSG-1301-61400 Nursing Pharmacology
Aug 31-Dec. 17, FA-2015

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Course Number: RNSG 1301
Section Number: 61400

Class Meeting Times: Sunday to Sunday-M-F INET-Online
Credit Hours: 3
Contact Hours: 48

Course Description: Introduction to the science of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of each drug classification. Topics include the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in safe administration of medications within a legal/ethical framework. Licensing/Certification: Board of Nursing (BON).

Course Prerequisites: Anatomy and Physiology I, BIOL 2401 or SCIT 1407
Concurrent: None. Must be successfully completed prior to entering L III in nursing


State Requirements/Intellectual Competencies:
RNSG 1331 satisfies the following Core Curriculum Intellectual Competencies defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

1. READING: The ability to analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials (books, documents, and articles) above 12th grade level.

   Competency in reading will be assessed through the student’s reading and understanding of required and suggested reading, class discussions, critical thinking case studies, and examinations.

2015FA-Pharmacology-RNSG-1301
2. WRITING: The ability to produce clear, correct, and coherent prose adapted to purpose, occasion, and audience above 12th grade level.

Competency in writing will be assessed in the required clinical paperwork.

3. SPEAKING: The ability to communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to purpose, occasion, and audience.

Competency in speaking will be observed in class presentations, discussions, and oral contribution in group activities and interpersonal communication with instructors, peers, staff, and health care providers.

4. LISTENING: The ability to analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication.

Competency in listening will be observed in the student’s response to questions and the ability to follow directions.

5. CRITICAL THINKING: The ability to think and analyze at a critical level.

Competency in critical thinking will be assessed through test questions and by the application of theory in the clinical arena, specifically in the grading of the nursing care plan.

6. COMPUTER LITERACY: The ability to understand our technological society, to use computer-based technology in communication, problem-solving, and information acquisition

Competency in computer literacy will be assessed by the student’s ability to utilize technology in the hospital and in the classroom.

Verification of workplace intellectual competencies:

While there are no external workplace (clinical) experiences included in this concepts course, the student has the opportunity to meet all of the SCANS through classroom activities, role play, and interactions with peers, faculty, administration and staff. Successful completion of RNSG 1331 will allow the student to complete the specific program requirements. Upon successful completion of the nursing program, the student will be eligible to take the State Board Exam (NCLEX) for licensure as a Registered Nurse.


I. COMMUNICATION (composition, speech, modern language)

The objective of a communication component of a core curriculum is to enable the student to communicate effectively in clear and correct prose in a style appropriate to the subject, occasion, and audience.

Exemplary Educational Objectives

1. To understand and demonstrate writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.
2. To develop the ability to research and write a documented paper and/or to give an oral presentation.
II. MATHEMATICS

The objective of the mathematics component of the core curriculum is to develop a quantitatively literate college graduate. Every college graduate should be able to apply basic mathematical tools in the solution of real-world problems.

*Exemplary Educational Objectives*

1. To represent and evaluate basic mathematical information verbally, numerically, graphically, and symbolically.

III. NATURAL SCIENCES

The objective of the study of a natural sciences component of a core curriculum is to enable the student to understand, construct, and evaluate relationships in the natural sciences, and to enable the student to understand the bases for building and testing theories.

*Exemplary Educational Objectives*

1. To demonstrate knowledge of the interdependence of science and technology and their influence on, and contribution to, modern culture.

IV. HUMANITIES AND VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

The objective of the humanities and visual and performing arts in a core curriculum is to expand students’ knowledge of the human condition and human cultures, especially in relation to behaviors, ideas, and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought. Through study in disciplines such as literature, philosophy, and the visual and performing arts, students will engage in critical analysis, form aesthetic judgments, and develop an appreciation of the arts and humanities as fundamental to the health and survival of any society. Students should have experiences in both the arts and humanities.

*Exemplary Educational Objectives*

1. To demonstrate knowledge of the influence of literature, philosophy, and/or the arts on intercultural experiences.

V. SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

The objective of a social and behavioral science component of a core curriculum is to increase students’ knowledge of how social and behavioral scientists discover, describe, and explain the behaviors and interactions among individuals, groups, institutions, events, and ideas. Such knowledge will better equip students to understand themselves and the roles they play in addressing the issues facing humanity.

*Exemplary Educational Objectives*

1. To identify and understand differences and commonalities within diverse cultures.

http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/index.cfm?objectid=7ED36862-993C-10F2-C64CA9C9EDF26C4C

2015FA-Pharmacology-RNSG-1301
Course objectives utilize the framework of *Differentiated Essential Competencies of Graduates of Texas Nursing Programs (2010).*

Member of the Profession
1. Represent themselves and the profession of nursing in a manner which promotes the practice of professional nursing.
2. Function within the nurse’s legal scope of practice.

Provider of Patient Centered-Care
1. Utilize steps of a systematic problem-solving process which includes use of evidence-based practice outcomes.
2. Perform selected nursing skills in the learning laboratory according to approved standards and criteria and analyze simulated data to identify problems, formulate goals/outcomes, and develop plans of care based on evidence-based practice.
3. Examine current literature and implications for evidence-based practice findings to improve care of clients with simple health care needs.

Patient Safety Advocate
1. Discuss the Texas Nursing Practice Act and the Texas Board of Nursing Rules that emphasize safety, as well as federal, state, and local government and accreditation organization safety requirements and standards.
2. Practice principles of patient safety including safe patient handling and safe medication administration in the simulated laboratory.

Member of the Health Care Team
1. Identify community resources that facilitate continuity of care; health promotion, maintenance, and restoration and ensure confidentiality.
2. Differentiate relationships among members of the interdisciplinary health care team in order to be prepared to promote and maintain optimal health care for patients and families.
Attendance and Classroom Policies:

You should go online daily to check for updates and announcements for the course as well as to see if others have responded so that you can stay ahead on your postings. The online course week begins on Sunday morning at 7:00AM and ends on the following Sunday evening at 11:59PM. Posts your initial response to the discussion board assignment by Wednesday at 11:59pm. Your 2 replies to your peer’s initial responses are due by Sunday at 11:59PM. Do not wait until the last day to submit your assignments. **LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.**

A student in the Mountain View Nursing Program must assume responsibility for individual learning and be a self-directed adult learner. Nursing faculty have carefully scheduled and constructed course content and learning activities. Students should make every effort to check in online for assignments and communications throughout the duration of the course. Attendance and participation will be monitored by the instructor online.

Some class content and discussion may be of a sensitive nature. Confidentiality is of key importance and must absolutely be honored.

In case of inclement weather, the Mountain View College and DCCCD inclement weather policy will be followed. In the event of an illness, accident, or emergency, the student should make direct contact with the instructor before a class, presentation, examination, or other activity takes place. If the instructor cannot be reached in person or by telephone, the student should leave a message with the nursing program administrative assistant or the instructor via voice mail. An extenuating circumstance will be handled by the instructor. Drop action may be taken by the instructor if a student is absent more than ten percent (10%) of total class hours.

**Attendance certification**

Although this is an online course an initial attendance for certification day must be obtained from each student. Therefore, everyone needs to send an email through course email tab in this course by 5/20/2015. Simply state your name and the word present after your name so that your attendance can be recorded. This step only needs to be done one time for the whole semester by the due date list above.

**Educational Resources**

Students should use all of the resources necessary in order to understand the material and to achieve the best grades possible. These include, but are not limited to: participating in a study group, utilizing the materials which are on the EVOLVE website, utilizing the MVC learning center and the programs on learning which it provides, meeting with the instructor as needed, getting a tutor, and researching any topics which may be unfamiliar or difficult. The student should become familiar with Blackboard and check it several times weekly for announcements, grades, and other pertinent information. In order to use the Blackboard e-mail system, the student’s e-mail address must be kept up to date with the college. Problems with Blackboard should be referred to the Blackboard telephone help desk, 972-669-6402.

**Exams and Assignments:**

Faculty will determine the specific assignments and exams for their courses. **There are no make-up assignments or exams. Not late assignments or exams will be accepted.** A grade of “0” will automatically be assigned in gradebook if an exam or assignment is not completed by the due date. There will be discussion board assignments, as well as 5 formal exams in this course, including a comprehensive final exam. The exams and assignments are to be completed online.

The grades will be weighted as follows:

2015FA-Pharmacology-RNSG-1301
• Exams x10  5% each
• Discussion Boards x15  2% each
• Final Exam  20%

Grading Scale:

Students are responsible for their own academic performance. The Mountain View College Nursing Program faculty has determined that a grade of "C" is the minimum acceptable grade for enabling a student to proceed to the next nursing course. The student must earn a grade of "C" or higher in every course required for a given semester or group of related courses in order to progress to the next semester. The faculty believes that students "earn" their academic grades rather than faculty "giving" grades to students. All policies as stated in the Student Handbook are binding. Students are encouraged to review these regulations on a regular basis.

The requirements for a particular letter grade in this course are listed below.

A = 92 – 100  
B = 84 – 91  
C = 75 – 83  
D = 68 - 75  
F = Below 67

The grading scale in this course is consistent with the grading scale of all courses in the nursing program. Throughout the nursing program, no grades including the final grades will be rounded up. For example: if the student makes a 74.9 on any test, assignment or as a final course grade, the grade computes to a ‘D’ or if a student has an 83.9, the grade computes as ‘C’.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the following procedure will be observed by the nursing faculty: No grade will be given over the telephone to a student or any other person under any circumstances. Grades will be available via E-campus and in person.

Discussion Board Assignments

There will be 5 discussion board assignments. Your answer to the discussion question should be supported with research, examples or references to the literature, and personal experiences in order to be considered substantive. In order to earn the assigned participation points, you must:

(1) Answer the required discussion questions for the assigned module individually by posting to the Discussion Board within the Blackboard platform for this course. Three points are awarded for your individual entries.
(2) Respond to at least 2 posting of a classmate. Use the “reply” prompt to the entry in order to keep the discussion “threaded”. One point is awarded for your substantive response to each peer (maximum points for both replies are 2).

The online course week begins on Sunday morning at 7:00AM and ends on the following Sunday evening at 11:59PM. Posts your initial response to the discussion board assignment by Wednesday at 11:59pm. Your 2 replies to your peer’s initial responses are due by Sunday at 11:59PM. Do not wait until the last day to submit your assignments. LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

Exams

There will be 5 exams and a final exam in this course. Each exam will be online and secured. You must have internet access in order to complete the exams. If you do not have internet access then you should use the available resources at Mountain View College to complete the exams and assignments.

2015FA-Pharmacology-RNSG-1301
Procedures for students who are unsuccessful:

Pharmacology may be taken at two different points as part of the nursing curriculum. The student who takes it prior to entering nursing and is successful will receive an extra point when being considered for entry into the nursing program. Success in pharmacology is highly recommended prior to entering the nursing program. If the student who takes it prior to entering the nursing program fails the course, there will be no credit for taking it on the entry application paperwork.

If pharmacology is taken along with the other Level II courses and the student is unsuccessful, or if the student withdraws from the course, the policy is the same as for failing any other course in Level II. The course must be repeated successfully prior to entry into Level III of the nursing program.

Grade Appeals

A student who wishes to appeal a grade should follow these guidelines:

1. Make an appointment immediately with your instructor to discuss your performance. Ask why you received the grade you did.
2. If you are unable to resolve the situation at that level, speak with the Nursing Director.
3. If you then continue to appeal a grade, file an appeal with the Executive Dean for Science, Allied Health, and P.E. (SAPE)
4. If you are still dissatisfied, you may request an appointment with the MVC Vice-President for Instruction.
5. Students may also discuss the situation with the Mountain View College counselors, especially the nursing counselor, but this does not take the place of formal appeals via the chain of command as listed above.

For a complete listing of MVC and DCCCD policies, refer to http://www.tasb.org/policy/pol/private/057501/. The highlighted policies below provide partial listing off the duties, rights and responsibilities of students enrolled in MVC courses.

Institutional Policies:

Withdrawal Policy:
The official drop date changes each semester and with each course. If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by 6/20/15. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a failing grade of “F”. If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a “W” (Withdraw) in each class dropped. If you drop one of the cohort courses in the semester (Concepts, Skills, and Clinical Lab), you must drop them all.

STOP BEFORE YOU DROP

For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in or after the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses each student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career in Texas state colleges unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your nursing counselor can give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses in state colleges with a “W”. Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access: https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops

Repeating This Course:
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. This class may not be repeated for the third or subsequent time without paying the additional tuition. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 semester. More information is available at: https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/ss/oep/third_attempt.cfm.

Financial Aid:

If you are receiving financial aid grants or loans, you must attend all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds.

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI)

The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program designed to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities have the basic academic skills needed to be successful in college-level course work. The TSI requires assessment, remediation (if necessary), and advising of students who attend a public college or university in the state of Texas. The program assesses a student’s basic academic skills in reading, writing, and math. Passing the assessment is a prerequisite for enrollment in many college level classes. Students who do not meet assessment standards may complete prerequisite requirements by taking developmental courses in the deficient area and passing them with a grade of C or higher. Additional information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/admiss/tsi_requirements.cfm.

Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the Dallas County Community Colleges. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog. More information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0406/ss/code.cfm.

ADA Statement:

If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office (W145) at 214-860-8691.

Religious Holidays:

Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence. The instructor MUST be notified prior to the absence.

Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus:

The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus and the course outline and related materials as necessary.

2015FA-Pharmacology-RNSG-1301
In the event of inclement weather which affects regular scheduled classes and events on the Mountain View campus, the Dallas County Community College District and Mountain View College offer several means of notification:

1) The DCCCD and Mountain View College web pages will display a notification of any closings or delays.

2) You may call the Inclement Weather Hotline at 214-860-2001 after 6:00 a.m. to hear a recorded message informing you of closings or delays.

3) You may sign up for free emergency alerts at [http://www.dcccd.edu/aboutdcccd/newsandevents/news/pages/emergalerts02-09-10.aspx](http://www.dcccd.edu/aboutdcccd/newsandevents/news/pages/emergalerts02-09-10.aspx). Alerts will be sent by text message, email, and voice message. You are encouraged to take advantage of this free service.

4) You also may refer to announcements on major television and radio stations in the event that the DCCCD or Mountain View College Internet sites cannot be accessed or the phone hotline is busy.

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**EARLY ALERT**

JOURNEY TO SUCCESS (commonly known as “Early Alert”) is a program designed to help DCCCD students identify and overcome obstacles they are facing during the pursuit of academic and career goals. The program is available to all DCCCD credit students who need help and guidance to achieve said goals. Specially trained coordinators, success coaches and faculty members at MVC volunteer their time to take part in JOURNEY TO SUCCESS.
In recognition of the professional nature of nursing and the nursing program and my personal responsibilities as a student, I attest to the following:

_____ I have read and reviewed the syllabus, course description, learning outcomes & objectives. I have had time and opportunity to clarify any unclear areas.

_____ I understand the importance of preparing for this course before class, clarifying unclear areas in class, and participating in group discussions. I understand that I earn a grade; that just meeting minimal requirements does not earn an A.

_____ I understand the importance of being on time, being prepared and not missing class. I will not wait until the last minute to turn in assignments or turn them in late.

_____ I will not be late to class or leave early.

_____ I understand my role in limiting cross-conversations and other distractions or disruptive behaviors, including, but not limited to, cell phones, eating, entering and leaving frequently, loud noises, computer noise, etc. in class.

_____ I will leave the room clean of debris and papers.

_____ I understand the withdrawal date in this semester is 11/19/15.

_____ I understand the Academic Honesty Policy and the Student Code of Conduct. I understand that not reporting cheating makes me culpable. Nurses are held to a higher degree of honesty and must protect the profession and the patients under our care.

_____ I have read and understand the testing schedule and will bring the correct Scantron to any exam situation where one is required.

_____ I understand how the course is graded, including tests, quizzes, and any extra assignments.

_____ I understand the “drop”, exit interview, & Grievance Policies.

_____ I know how to reach my instructor if I need to be absent or need help with the course

_____ I understand that it is my responsibility to maintain my grades.

_____ I understand that a final grade below “C” will not be rounded up.

_______________________  __________________  __________
Print Name              Signature              Date
In recognition of the professional nature of nursing and the nursing program and my personal responsibilities as a student, I attest to the following:

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Print Name                  Signature                  Date